# Relocation of Customer Service Windows for Patent-Related Correspondence; Establishment of Drop Box in South Tower for Certain Patent-Related Correspondence;

Hand Carry and Mailing Address for Trademark-Related Correspondence

Effective January 14, 2005, a new Customer Service Window for patent-related correspondence will open at 8:30 a.m. at the USPTO Alexandria campus. The Customer Service Window (Lobby, Room 1B03) and the PCT Customer Service Window (8<sup>th</sup> floor) currently located at 220 20th Street South, Crystal Plaza Two, Arlington, VA 22202 will close at 12:00 midnight on January 13, 2005 and will be consolidated at the Alexandria campus.

## **Customer Service Window for Patent-Related Correspondence**

The location for the new Customer Service Window is on the first floor of the south side of the Randolph Building, with street level access from Ballenger Avenue. The specific hand carry or delivery address is:

Customer Service Window Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314

If the appropriate mail stop is known, the mail stop should also be included in the address. Documents for the Customer Service Window or the PCT Customer Service Window may be hand carried or delivered to the new Customer Service Window at the above Alexandria address on or after January 14, 2005. No application numbers will be assigned by window staff at the time of delivery. Hours of Operation will be 8:30 a.m. through 12 midnight, Monday through Friday, except holidays and if the USPTO is closed for inclement weather or an emergency.

#### **Drop Box in South Tower for Certain Patent-Related Correspondence**

Additionally, a satellite drop location will be established in the lobby of the South Tower building in Crystal City (2900 Crystal Drive, Arlington, Virginia), effective January 14, 2005. This location will not be staffed but will be monitored by the building guard. Applications and application-related papers may be left at this location during the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays and if the USPTO is closed for inclement weather or an emergency. The guard will not allow materials to be left except during those hours. No postcard receipts will be stamped at time of drop off, nor will the guard answer any processing questions. Materials will be retrieved periodically throughout the day and taken to the appropriate location for processing.

### Other Information Regarding Patent-Related Correspondence

The new customer service window and new drop box must not be used for correspondence that is required to be mailed to post office boxes other than P.O. Box

1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, filed by facsimile, filed electronically, or hand-delivered to a different address.

PCT customer service offices will provide file inspection for files located in PCT PALM locations. The PCT file inspection location is Room 4A22, 2900 Crystal Drive, Arlington, Virginia (South Tower). Customers should call 703-305-3165 in advance to make arrangements to inspect a file. Requests to inspect files located in OIPE PALM locations should be directed to the File Information Unit (FIU) at 703-308-2733. The FIU is located in Room 2E04, 2900 Crystal Drive, Arlington, Virginia (South Tower).

Patent-related correspondence sent through the United States Postal Service should continue to be directed to the addresses set forth in 37 CFR 1.1 (revised effective September 13, 2004) (e.g., P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450).

#### Hand Delivery and Mailing Address for Trademark-Related Correspondence

Use of any patent boxes for trademark-related correspondence is strongly discouraged, and may result in delayed processing. Most trademark-related correspondence, including Madrid Protocol-related correspondence, may be filed electronically using the Trademark Electronic Application System (TEAS), at <a href="www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a>. The USPTO prefers that filers use TEAS where possible.

Trademark-related correspondence also may be hand-delivered to the Trademark Assistance Center (TAC) located at:

Trademark Assistance Center James Madison Building - East Wing Concourse Level 600 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Hand deliveries of Madrid Protocol-related correspondence should also include the notation "Attention: MPU".

Hours of operation for TAC are 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except holidays or days the USPTO is closed for inclement weather or emergency.

Trademark-related correspondence sent through the United States Postal Service, except documents sent to the Assignment Services Division for recordation, requests for copies of trademark documents, and documents filed under the Madrid Protocol, should be mailed to:

Commissioner for Trademarks P.O. Box 1451 Alexandria, VA 22313-1451 Madrid Protocol-related documents sent through the United States Postal Service should be mailed to:

Commissioner for Trademarks P.O. Box 16471 Arlington, VA 22215-1471

Attn: MPU

Questions regarding this notice may be e-mailed to <u>PatentPractice@uspto.gov</u>, or directed to the Inventors' Assistance Center (formerly the Patent Assistance Center (PAC)) by telephone at (800)786-9199, or (703)308-4357.

Date:

John D. Kassett

January 12, 2005

John D. Hassett Director Administrative Services